

Message Text

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ORIGIN AF-18

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ADP-00 RSR-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09

H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01

SS-15 USIA-12 IO-12 OMB-01 /109 R

DRAFTED BY AF/ N: RHPELLETREAU: AG

4/11/73 EXT. 21194

APPROVED BY AF/ N: RHPELLETREAU

ARN: DRANSOM

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R 111640 Z APR 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TUNIS

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

UNCLAS STATE 067206

E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: PFOR, TS, XF

SUBJECT: ABU DA' UD

REFS: TUNIS 1901, AMMAN 1908

1. GAYER ARTICLE, WHICH APPEARED IN MARCH 26 CHICAGO DAILY NEWS UNDER TITLE QUOTE EXTREMISTS IN FATAH MAKE UP BLACK SEPTEMBER: ARAB LEADER END QUOTE READS AS FOLLOWS (UNESSENTIAL WORDS OMITTED):
 2. AMMAN - IMPRISONED PALESTINIAN COMMANDO LEADER ABU DAOUD SAID IN INTERVIEW HERE THAT IT IS QUOTE THE EXTREMISTS OF FATAH WHO MAKE UP BLACK SEPTEMBER, UNQUOTE BUT QUOTE YOU CANNOT SAY THAT ALL FATAH IS BLACK SEPTEMBER. UNQUOTE
 3. IN THIS FIRST INTERVIEW WITH A JOURNALIST SINCE HIS CAPTURE FEB. 8, ABU DAOUD LENT MORE FIRE TO CONTROVERSY OVER WHETHER THERE IS ANY DIFFERENCE BETWEEN QUOTE MODERATE UNQUOTE AND QUOTE RADICAL UNQUOTE PALESTINIAN MOVEMENTS.
 4. QUOTE BLACK SEPTEMBER RECEIVES ORDERS FROM SOME LEADERS
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OF FATAH, UNQUOTE HE SAID. QUOTE BUT BLACK SEPTEMBER IS NOT ALL OF FATAH. UNQUOTE.

5. HE STRESSED THAT HE WORKED ONLY FOR FATAH, LARGEST AND LONG CONSIDERED MOST MODERATE OF PALESTINIAN GROUPS, AND HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH RADICAL BLACK SEPTEMBER, WHICH SAID IT CARRIED OUT THE MUNICH OLYMPIC KILLINGS OF 11 ISRAELIS AND MURDERS OF THREE DIPLOMATS, TWO OF THEM AMERICAN, IN KHARTOUM, SUDAN.

6. TODAY ABU DAOUD IS QUIET AND SEEMINGLY CHAGRINED MAN. IN THIS STRANGELY CONFESSIONAL INTERVIEW, CONDUCTED AT MIDNIGHT SUNDAY OUTSIDE OF AMMAN, HE WAS NERVOUS BUT APPARENTLY IN GOOD HEALTH. THERE WAS SOME CHIDING FROM JORDANIANS PRESENT, BUT HE APPEARED TO ANSWER QUESTIONS OF HIS OWN VOLITION.

7. QUOTE I CAME TO JORDAN TO TAKE JORDANIAN CABINET AS HOSTAGES FOR TWO PURPOSES, UNQUOTE HE SAID WHEN ASKED ABOUT HIS BIZARRE ENTRY INTO JORDAN DISGUISED AS SHIEK FROM THE ARABIAN PENINSULA.

8. QUOTE ONE, I WANTED TO SECURE RELEASE OF MY COLLEAGUES IN PRISON HERE. TWO, I WANTED TO BE ABLE TO MAKE NEGOTIATIONS WITH JORDANIAN GOVERNMENT FROM STRONG POSITION IN ORDER TO PERMIT COMMANDO MOVEMENTS TO COME BACK TO AMMAN. UNQUOTE

9. ASKED WHETHER HE MEANT TO BRING COMMANDOS QUOTE BACK TO AMMAN UNQUOTE IN PREDOMINANT POSITION THEY HAD BEFORE THEIR 1970 CIVIL WAR WITH JORDANIAN ARMY, HE SAID:

QUOTE YES, AS IT WAS BEFORE -- WE WERE COMING BACK TO JORDAN. UNQUOTE

10. DAOUD, 36, REPEATEDLY SAID HE HAD TOTALLY CHANGED HIS FEELINGS SINCE BEING CAPTURED ON BORDER.

11. QUOTE NOW I KNOW WE MUST FIGHT INSIDE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES AND NOT INSIDE ARAB COUNTRIES, UNQUOTE HE SAID.

12. QUOTE WE MUST NOT FIGHT JORDAN BUT CO- OPERATE WITH UNCLASSIFIED

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JORDAN AND OTHER ARAB COUNTRIES AND WE MUST NEGOTIATE WITH

AUTHORITIES HERE. UNQUOTE

13. WHY HAD HIS POSITION CHANGED SO DRAMATICALLY?

4. QUOTE MANY THINGS CHANGE FROM TIME TO TIME, UNQUOTE
E ANSWERED. QUOTE SOMETIMES YOU ARE WALKING DOWN THE
STREET AND YOU FIND SOMEONE AND YOU CHANGE YOUR MIND.
HOW CAN YOU SAY WHAT MADE SOMEONE LIKE ME CHANGE? I HEARD
DISCUSSIONS HERE I HAD NOT HEARD BEFORE. UNQUOTE

15. HE STRESSED HE HAD BEEN TREATED WELL AND THAT 16 MEN
WHO WERE TO JOIN HIM IN OPERATION BUT WERE ALSO SEIZED
WERE A
E E E E E E E

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** UNCLASSIFIED

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts:
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 11 APR 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973STATE067206
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: RHPELLETREAU: AG
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: n/a
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: SECSTATE WASHDC
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730440/aaaaigbu.tel
Line Count: 127
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ORIGIN AF
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 73 TUNIS 1901, 73 AMMAN 1908
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: kellerpr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags: ANOMALY
Review Date: 24 AUG 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <24-Aug-2001 by cunninfx>; APPROVED <06-Sep-2001 by kellerpr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> gwr 971224
Subject: ABU DA' UD
TAGS: PFOR, TS, XF
To: AMMAN
TUNIS
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005